

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Forrest Mandeville, on March 23, 2017 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Forrest Mandeville, Chair (R)  
Rep. Bryce Bennett, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Wendy McKamey, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Jacob Bachmeier (D)  
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)  
Rep. John Fleming (D)  
Rep. Edward Greef (R)  
Rep. Denise Hayman (D)  
Rep. Jessica Karjala (D)  
Rep. Dennis R. Lenz (R)  
Rep. Jean Price (D)  
Rep. Walt Sales (R)  
Rep. Ray L. Shaw (R)  
Rep. Scott Staffanson (R)  
Rep. Kathy Swanson (D)  
Rep. Peggy Webb (R)  
Rep. Susan Webber (D)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Garner (R)  
Rep. A. Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Skees (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Joanne Kauzlarich, Committee Secretary  
Sheri Scurr, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 594, 3/16/2017; HB 591, 3/16/2017; SB 297 3/20/2017;  
SJ 16, 3/16/2017;

Executive Action: SJ 16, SB 206, HB 599, SB 301

**HEARING ON HB 594****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:43 Rep. Dennis Lenz (R), HD 53, opened the hearing on HB 594, Generally revise Montana state museum funding.

00:04:29 Rep. Skees and Rep. Garner joined meeting

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:18:07 Steve Wade, Montana Contractors Association (MCA)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:19:55 Bruce Whittenberg, Montana Historical Society (MHS)  
00:27:07 Kathy Burwell, Helena Area Chamber of Commerce  
00:28:25 Robert Brown, Self  
00:31:07 Charlene Porsild, Montana History Foundation (MF)  
00:32:40 Emily Hibbard, Self  
00:35:25 Lisa Verwys, Self  
00:38:10 Bill Mackay, Self  
00:39:46 Isaiah Cech, Self  
00:40:59 Stephanie Ambrose Tubbs, Montana Preservation Alliance (MPA)  
00:42:59 Ed Jasmin, Montana Historical Society (MHS)  
00:44:40 Jim Court, Self

**EXHIBIT(sth60a01)**

00:46:08 Mary Rutherford, Montana Community Foundation (MCF)  
00:48:21 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT  
00:49:43 Liz Moore, Montana Nonprofit Association  
00:51:01 Heidi O' Brien, Visit Helena Montana  
00:52:18 Charles Jezick, Self  
00:52:49 Chere Jiusto, Montana Preservation Alliance (MPA)  
00:56:37 Denise King, Montana Historical Society (MHS)

**EXHIBIT(sth60a02)**

01:11:34 Rick Ahmann, Self

**Informational Testimony:**

01:15:14 Tom O'Connell, Architecture and Engineering Division (AED)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:16:00 Rep. Staffanson  
01:16:36 Denise King, MHS  
01:18:20 Rep. Staffanson  
01:19:19 Emily Hibbard, Self  
01:20:21 Rep. Staffanson  
01:21:12 Emily Hibbard, Self  
01:22:23 Rep. Karjala  
01:27:16 Denise King, MHS  
01:28:40 Rep. Bachmeier  
01:30:55 Bruce Whittenberg, MHS

01:31:02 Rep. Skees  
01:31:25 Rep. Lenz  
01:32:43 Rep. Skees  
01:33:03 Rep. Lenz  
01:34:40 Rep. Webb  
01:35:05 Bruce Whittenberg, MHS  
01:36:14 Rep. Webber  
01:36:27 Bruce Whittenberg, MHS  
01:36:43 Rep. Bachmeier  
01:36:47 Chair Mandeville  
01:36:58 Rep. Bachmeier  
01:37:28 Denise King, MHS  
01:37:30 Rep. Bachmeier  
01:39:00 Denise King, MHS  
01:40:53 Rep. Hayman  
01:41:51 Bruce Whittenberg, MHS  
01:43:26 Chair Mandeville  
01:44:04 Denise King, MHS

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:46:28 Rep. Lenz  
  
01:57:10 Recessed  
02:03:15 Reconvened

**HEARING ON HB 591****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:04:02 Rep. Zach Brown (D), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 591, Provide for student loan refinancing.

[EXHIBIT\(sth60a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(sth60a04\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:09:49 Andrew Bixler, Montana Associated Students (MAS)  
02:11:25 Kaitlyn Westhoff, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:12:57 Eric Feaver, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA- MFT)

**Informational Testimony:**

02:20:18 Doug Hill, Montana Board of Investments (BOI)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:20:54 Rep. Garner  
02:21:23 Rep. Brown  
02:23:22 Rep. Garner  
02:23:45 Rep. Brown  
02:24:51 Rep. Shaw

02:26:20 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT  
02:27:20 Rep. Webb  
02:27:42 Rep. Brown  
02:28:05 Chair Mandeville  
02:28:17 Doug Hill, BOI  
02:28:22 Chair Mandeville  
02:29:08 Doug Hill, BOI  
02:30:36 Rep. Hayman  
02:31:50 Rep. Brown  
02:33:15 Rep. Price  
02:33:46 Rep. Brown  
02:35:35 Rep. Shaw  
02:37:12 Rep. Brown  
02:38:07 Rep. Garner left meeting  
02:38:48 Rep. McKamey  
02:39:29 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:42:09 Rep. Brown

02:44:13 Rep. Staffanson

**HEARING ON SB 297****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:45:43 Sen. Jedediah Hinkle (R), SD 32, opened the hearing on SB 297, Generally revise laws related to voters in school districts elections.

**[EXHIBIT\(sth60a05\)](#)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:50:09 Lynn Milligan, Self  
02:51:42 Alan Shaw, Self

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:57:54 Bob Vogel, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA), Montana School Board Association (MSBA), Montana Association of Clerks and Records (MACR)

**[EXHIBIT\(sth60a06\)](#)**

03:04:30 Pat Audet, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)  
03:07:19 Eric Feaver, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:09:22 Rep. Staffanson  
03:10:17 Sen. Hinkle  
03:11:04 Rep. Staffanson  
03:11:34 Bob Vogel, MREA, MSBA, MACR

03:12:03 Rep. Bachmeier  
03:15:11 Sen. Hinkle  
03:15:34 Rep. Karjala  
03:19:11 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT  
03:19:55 Rep. Custer  
03:23:50 Sen. Hinkle  
03:26:30 Rep. Custer  
03:26:57 Rep. Bennett  
03:29:59 Sen. Hinkle  
03:30:31 Rep. Skees  
03:32:19 Bob Vogel, MREA, MSBA, MACR  
03:32:30 Rep. Hayman  
03:33:24 Bob Vogel, MREA, MSBA, MACR  
03:34:46 Rep. Custer  
03:35:22 Sen. Hinkle  
03:35:37 Rep. Custer  
03:36:00 Sen. Hinkle  
03:36:38 Rep. Price  
03:37:03 Sen. Hinkle  
03:38:28 Lynn Milligan, Self  
03:41:33 Rep. Price  
03:42:00 Lynn Milligan, Self  
03:42:46 Rep. Karjala  
03:47:27 Sen. Hinkle  
03:47:37 Rep. Lenz  
03:47:59 Sen. Hinkle  
03:48:09 Rep. Fleming  
03:48:33 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:49:31 Sen. Hinkle

**HEARING ON SJ 16****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

03:54:26 Sen. Mary Caferro (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SJ 16, Resolution commemorating anniversaries of Montana's military experiences.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

03:56:23 Roger Hagan, Montana National Guard (MTNG), American Legion  
03:57:12 Joe Foster, Department of Military Affairs (DMA)  
03:57:30 Raymond Read, Montana Military Museum

**Opponents' Testimony:** None**Informational Testimony:** None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:58:42 Rep. Sales  
03:59:05 Raymond Read, Montana Military Museum

03:59:31 Rep. Shaw  
03:59:47 Chair Mandeville  
03:59:50 Rep. Shaw

**Closing by Sponsor:**

04:00:03 Sen. Caferro  
  
04:00:38 Chair Mandeville  
04:00:50 Rep. Skees  
04:00:53 Chair Mandeville  
04:00:58 Rep. Custer  
04:01:02 Chair Mandeville  
04:01:29 Rep. Skees  
04:01:32 Chair Mandeville  
04:01:34 Rep. Skees  
04:01:36 Chair Mandeville  
04:01:44 Rep. Shaw  
04:01:55 Chair Mandeville

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 16**

04:02:00 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Shaw moved that **SJ 16 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Garner and Rep. A. Knudsen voted by proxy. Rep. Shaw will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 206**

04:03:04 **Motion:** Rep. McKamey moved that **SB 206 BE CONCURRED IN**.

04:03:14 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Custer made a substitute motion that **SB 206 BE TABLED**. Substitute Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Garner and Rep. A. Knudsen voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 599**

04:04:14 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **HB 599 DO PASS**.

04:04:31 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **HB 599 BE AMENDED**.  
[EXHIBIT\(sth60a07\)](#)

04:05:50 **Vote:** Motion carried 15-5 by voice vote with Rep. Bachmeier, Rep. Bennett, Rep. Hayman, Rep. Karjala and Rep. Swanson voting no. Rep. Garner and Rep. A. Knudsen voted by proxy.

04:07:02 **Motion:** Rep. Skees moved that **HB 599 DO PASS AS AMENDED**.

**Discussion:**

04:07:02 Rep. Bennett  
04:07:22 Chair Mandeville

04:08:05 **Vote:** Motion carried 12-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Bachmeier, Rep. Bennett, Rep. Fleming, Rep. Hayman, Rep. Karjala, Rep. Price, Rep. Swanson and Rep. Webber voting no. Rep. Garner and Rep. A. Knudsen voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 301**

04:10:02 **Motion:** Rep. McKamey moved that **SB 301 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

04:10:11 Rep. Bennett

04:10:32 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Bennett made a substitute motion that **SB 301 BE TABLED.** Substitute Motion carried 13-7 by roll call vote with Rep. Greef, Rep. A. Knudsen, Rep. Lenz, Rep. McKamey, Rep. Skees, Rep. Staffanson and Rep. P. Webb voting no. Rep. Garner and Rep. A. Knudsen voted by proxy.

04:12:37 Chair Mandeville

04:13:18 Rep. Staffanson

04:13:27 Chair Mandeville

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 04:14:14

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Joanne Kauzlarich, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([sth60aad.pdf](#))**